

Amendments to the Specification:

At page 1 after the paragraph "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS", please insert the following new paragraph.

STATEMENT AS TO FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH

This invention was made with the support of the United States government under contract DASG60-99-C-0076 under an SBIR sponsored project by the Ballistic Missile defense organization. The United States may have certain rights in the invention.

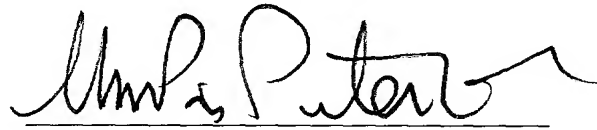
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit this Preliminary Amendment prior to the examination of this application on the merits. Since the present amendment does not introduce new matter, Applicants respectfully request its entry prior to examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI

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U.P. Peter Eng
Reg. No. 39,666

WILSON, SONSINI, GOODRICH & ROSATI
650 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1050
Telephone (650) 493-9300